

Tom Horne
Superintendent

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Thursday, May 6, 2004

HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOL FIRST HONOREE AS TOM HORNE ANNOUNCES STATEWIDE ACADEMY TO PROMOTE AND DEVELOP EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

PHOENIX (Thursday, May 6, 2004) – Arizona Schools Chief Tom Horne tomorrow at Highland High School in Gilbert at 9:45 a.m., will announce AZ LEADS³, a leadership initiative to recruit, prepare, induct, develop, and recognize quality school leaders. Horne will lead the Academy sponsoring this initiative, which includes representatives from all state university leadership preparation programs, the business education coalition, and a number of other non-profit, business and education groups.

“All studies show that strong schools have strong leaders at all levels. We have no more important task than the development of quality leadership among superintendents, principals, and teachers,” Horne stated.

As the first honoree, AZ LEADS³ is recognizing Highland High School in the Gilbert Unified School District. Highland High School demonstrates outstanding leadership that has demonstrated improved student achievement. The principal has been recognized in 2002-2003 as Arizona Secondary Principal of the Year, and the school has four Nationally Board Certified Teachers. The school is Excelling under the AZ Learns school accountability system and has top AIMS scores in Writing, Reading and Math.

AZ LEADS³ stands for Arizona Leaders for the Advancement and Development of Student and School Success. Other members of the AZ LEADS³ Academy include but are not limited to: Arizona School Boards Association; Arizona School Administrators; Arizona Education Association; Arizona Parent Teacher Association; the K-12 Center; Greater Phoenix Leadership; Rodel Foundation; Center for Leadership, Ethics and Policy; and the State Board of Education.

**WHO: TOM HORNE RECOGNIZES HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOL FOR
OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP, KICKS OFF AZ LEADS³**

WHERE: HIGHLAND HIGH SCHOOL, 4301 EAST GUADALUPE ROAD

WHEN: FRIDAY, MAY 7, 2004 @ 9:45-10:30 A.M.

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